

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A display-panel-drive apparatus having a drive unit that drives the display panel and a control unit that outputs control signals for controlling said drive unit to said drive unit, the display-panel-drive apparatus comprising:

a drive board of said drive unit;

a control board of said control unit;

a transmission line that transmits said control signals from said control board to said drive board by way of a removable connector;

a detection device that detects when said connector is disconnected; and

a control device that controls said drive unit when said detection device detects that said connector is disconnected; and wherein

said detection device detects that said connector is disconnected by detecting when the connection terminals which are included in of said connector are disconnected.

wherein said control device stops operation of said drive unit when said detection device detects that said connector is disconnected,

wherein said control signals are signals that cause said drive unit to output scan pulses given to successive display lines for setting some of the discharge cells located on said plasma-display panel as light-emitting cells and some of non-emitting cells.

2-5. (canceled).

6. (new) The display-panel-drive apparatus according to claim 1,
wherein said drive unit includes first switch (S21) and second switch (S22) which are connected to a power supply (B2), and scan pulses are outputted from a connection point between the first switch (S21) and the second switch (S22),

wherein when said detection device detects that said connector is disconnected, the first switch (S21) is set to ON state and the second switch (S22) is set to OFF state.

7. (new) A display-panel-drive comprising:
a drive process of driving the display panel;
a control process of outputting control signals for controlling said drive process;
a transmission process of transmitting said control signals from a control board to a drive board by way of the removable connector; and
a detection process of detecting when said connector is disconnected,
wherein said control process stops said drive process when said detection process detects that said connector is disconnected;
said detection process detects that said connector is disconnected by detecting when the connection terminals which are included in said connector are disconnected; and

said control signals are signals that cause said drive process to output scan pulses given to successive display lines for setting some of the discharge cells located on said plasma-display panel as light-emitting cells and some as non-emitting cells.

8. (new): The display-panel-drive method according to claim 3, wherein a part of said drive process executed by a first switch (S21) and a second switch (S22) which are connected to a power supply (B2), and scan pulses are outputted from a connection point between the first switch (S21) and the second switch (S22),

wherein when said detection process detects that said connector is disconnected, the first switch S21 is set to ON state and the second switch S22 is set to OFF state.